



# Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

## Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting

held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 @ 7:30 pm

in the Parish Council office, 27 Victoria Road (behind the Library), Mortimer

### Present:

Councillors: Cllr. M. Dennett (Chairman), Cllr. J. Bull, Cllr. N. Carter, Cllr. C. Lewis, and Cllr. D. Morsley.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Hannawin

Public/Press: There were no members of the public and no members of the press present.

19/80	<b><u>Public Questions</u></b> None	
19/81	<b><u>To receive any apologies for absence</u></b> Apologies received from Cllr. G. Bridgman.	
19/82	<b><u>To receive declarations of interest</u></b> None It was noted that advice received states members of a parish council meeting do not hold a disclosable pecuniary interest when setting the precept and a dispensation is not, therefore, required.	
19/83	<b><u>Minutes of last meeting</u></b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 be <b>APPROVED</b> as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.	
19/84	<b><u>Clerk's report</u></b> The Clerk's report was received outlining actions taken following the meeting on the 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2019. The following was noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A recent email from M&amp;G developments was sent privately to some councillors. As it was not to the Council, the Council is not in a position to reply.</li> </ul>	
19/85	<b><u>Items to be taken in private session</u></b> None.	
19/86	<b><u>Committee and Working Party/Group Reports</u></b> <b>1) Strategy Working Party (SWP):</b> Cllr. Morsley reported that the consultation documentation has been finalised and is ready for printing. The newsletter will be sent to the printers on Monday. It was noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Survey Monkey questions should be the same as those in the newsletter survey. Any additional ones, necessary to assist the flow of the survey, will be highlighted and checked prior to being made public.</li> <li>The consultation will be promoted via the SMPC website, Facebook page and a Correx board on the fence.</li> </ul> <b>2. Communications Working Group:</b> No report was received.	<b>NC</b> <b>NC/ Clerk</b>

19/87	<p><b><u>Items for consideration and resolution</u></b></p> <p><b>1) Budget 2020/2021</b>  a. To receive and APPROVE the draft budget for presentation to Full Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> unanimously</p> <p><b>2) Review of Policies</b>  a. To review and AGREE the Complaints Policy for presentation to Full Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020.</p> <p>Cllr. Lewis raised concern that the proposed Complaints Procedure, gave no further right of appeal once the complaint had been heard by a panel of councillors. It was thought that this was acceptable as it reflects the Complaints Procedure as adopted by West Berkshire Council (WBC).</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> unanimously</p>	
19/88	<p><b><u>Items for Information Only</u></b></p> <p><b>1) Minor Matters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sadly, former councillor and chairman Lawrence Picking has passed away. A minute silence will be held at the Full Council meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January.</li> <li>• Cllr. Lewis has completed a paper on footpath issue at Manns Farm. It was agreed this would be considered for the Full Council agenda for the 9<sup>th</sup> January.</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>
19/89	<p><b><u>Finance</u></b></p> <p><b>1) Accounts to 30th November 2019</b>  a) To receive and APPROVE the Income and Expenditure Report and the Balance Sheet.</p> <p>The Income and Expenditure Report and Balance Sheet to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were <b>APPROVED</b> unanimously.</p>	
19/90	<p><b><u>Communications</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation: to be promoted on the website, Facebook and Fairground fence after the newsletter has been delivered the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> January.</li> </ul>	
19/91	<p><b><u>Future Agenda Items</u></b></p> <p>Future agenda items were identified as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Standing Orders.</li> <li>• Review of Persistent Complainants Procedure</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>
19/92	<p><b><u>Exclusion of Press and Public</u></b></p> <p>Not required.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.19pm.